

REMARKS

In response to the examiner's requirement for election of species with respect to type of process, applicant elects grinding. Claims 1-20 encompass the elected species, in the sense that each of these claims admits of the possibility of the method including a grinding step. Claims 1-14 and 18-20 encompass the elected species in the sense that the claimed method does not require a step other than grinding.

In response to the examiner's requirement for election of species with respect to type of reducing gas, applicant elects sulphur dioxide. Claims 1-20 encompass the elected species, in the sense that each of these claims admits of the possibility of the reducing gas containing sulphur dioxide. Claims 1-11 and 13-20 encompass the elected species in the sense that the claimed method does not require that the reducing gas contain a material other than sulphur dioxide.

Respectfully submitted,

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